Iowa Department of Human Services
CHILD CARE CENTER EVALUATION AND RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE

Name of Center: Little Bulldog Child Care **Enrollment:** 59 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 19204

Street: 704 S Page St **City:** Monona Iowa **Zip** 52159 **County:** Clayton

Mailing Address: PO Box 163, Monona, IA, 52159

Director's Name: Ashley Lograsso **Phone Number:** 563-539-4966

On-Site Supervisor(s): Amy Kruse **E-Mail:** littlebulldog@mflmm.k12.ia.us

Date(s) of Visit: 06-16-2025

Licensing Visit X **Unannounced Visit** X **Off Year Visit** **Administrative Change**

LICENSING VISITS

New Application **Re-Application** X **NA**

Signed Application (470-0722) Received **Yes** **No** X **NA** **Date Signed:**

FIRE INSPECTION X **State** **Local** **NA** **Is Fire Inspection Approved?** X **Yes** **No** **NA**

Date Inspected: 11-13-2024

Comments : Compliance on 12/03/24

LICENSE TYPE: X **Child Care** **Preschool (ages 3-5 meets three hours or less per day)**

Financial Type: Profit X Non-Profit NA

Accredition: Accredited NAEYC NSACA Other X NA

Program Serves: X Infants (0-23 mo.) X 2 Years X Preschool-Age X School-Age

Get-Well Evening Care Special Needs

SCHEDULE: X Year-round School-Year Summer Only

HOURS:	*Year-round*	*School-Year*	*Summer Only*

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Age	Capacity
General	12	12	15	28	67
Summer					0

QRS Rating: 3

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 07-01-2024 to 07-01-2026
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Becky Frost **Date:** 07-30-2025

I. IF CURRENT LICENSE IS PROVISIONAL, IDENTIFY THE CORRECTIVE ACTIONS

N/A

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

On 06/16/25 I made an unannounced off year licensing visit to Little Bulldog Childcare Center in Monona. I met with Ashley Lograsso, the director. She started in April 2021 and became the director in June 2022. Ms. Lograsso completed classes to earn her CDA. She is NAC certified. She had a non-registered home for four years and has business experience. Amy Kruse is the on-site supervisor. She has a BS in secondary education in special education with a reading and math endorsement. She was hired in April 2011. The center has hired Josie Guerin to be the Education Coach and Coordinator. She has an MA in early childhood education. She goes into the classrooms and trains new teachers. The center employs 24 staff members.

Little Bulldog Childcare Center opened in Monona on 07/16/07. It is in a free-standing building. The childcare center is a non-profit organization. The childcare center was built as an addition to the school. The center provides childcare and a three-year-old preschool program. The childcare center serves children birth through school age and operates Monday through Friday from 6:00 am until 6:00 pm. The center is licensed for 67 children and currently has 59 children enrolled. The Head Start program is also located in a classroom within the childcare center and is licensed separately. The program has an IQ4K level of 3, which expires in August 2026. The program partners with Keystone AEA to provide services for children with identified needs.

The center operates out of the following rooms: an infant room, toddler room (18 months through two-years-old), a preschool room (three through five-years-old) and a school-age room. An inspection of each room was completed. The rooms were in ratio during my visit. Windows provide natural lighting. The rooms are decorated with the children's art projects. The preschool room is decorated with posters to assist the children with the learning process, such as the alphabet, shapes, colors and numbers. The children's birthdays were posted. There is an area for circle time.

The centers observed on the day of the licensing visit include library, Lego/blocks, table toys, games, puzzles, transportation, art, dramatic play, listening, writing, math, science/discovery, sensory table and music. Centers were arranged in a manner that allowed easy movement between activities, but it also allowed for clear supervision by staff members. Materials were in good condition. The materials are located at child level, so they are easily accessible to the children.

A variety of resources are used to create lesson plans. The preschool and the school age teachers use the Creative Curriculum to develop lesson plans. The toddlers use the Creative Curriculum and a variety of other resources. Activities are based on weekly themes. Each teacher is responsible for developing their own lesson plans. Lesson plans were available for review.

The center uses ProCare to complete daily sheets for the children under two years old. They also use it to communicate with all the families.

There was a phone with emergency numbers that included the center's address and phone number in each of the classrooms. Emergency fire and tornado procedures and evacuation diagrams were posted by all the main program doors and outdoor

exits. A daily schedule was posted for each room.

I reviewed documentation of monthly fire and tornado drills. I reviewed documentation of monthly playground inspections. You must also inspect the school's playgrounds that the children use.

The radon test was completed in June 2023 and is good for five years. The results were within EPA guidelines. The fuel burning inspection was completed and no concerns were noted. A carbon monoxide detector was on site and located in the entrance near the Head Start room. Outlets were protected. The fire marshal inspection occurred on 11/13/24, with compliance on 12/03/24.

The program participates in the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP). The center provides the children with breakfast, lunch and an afternoon snack. Meals are made on-site. Coleen Martins is the cook. Meals are served in the classroom and dishes are returned to the kitchen to be put through the industrial dishwasher. There are also three sinks in the kitchen to use the three-step method if necessary. They use a five-week rotation of menus. There is a refrigerator, upright freezer and a chest freezer in the kitchen and thermometers are present. Food items were stored according to NHSPS guidelines.

There is a refrigerator in the infant room. Thermometers were present, but the one in the freezer was not working. Please replace this.

The center offers infants one brand of formula or parents can bring what they prefer. The center provides baby food and cereal. Bottles are sent to the kitchen to be put through the dishwasher.

The center uses Hillyard Sanitizer to sanitize the eating tables. They use Enviro Solutions ES15 to disinfect the changing tables. I observed or discussed diaper changes in the classrooms. In the toddler room the staff member was leaving the gloves on through the entire process. Gloves are considered soiled and must be removed prior to putting on the new diaper. There was not a pattern of disregard so this will not be cited.

I observed diaper changes and proper procedures are followed. Handwashing procedures were posted near all the sinks and diaper changing procedures were posted near all the changing tables as required.

The children in the school-age were sitting on the rug prior to moving to the tables to eat lunch. They moved directly to the tables from the rug. Children must wash their hands prior to sitting down for food activities.

Cribs are used to nap for infants and cots are used to nap for the other children.

The parent information is located on a bulletin board inside the entrance. The mandatory reporter, childcare consultant and the handbook availability were posted. The license was conspicuously hung. A no-smoking sign was posted at the entrance.

There is a fenced in outdoor play area adjacent to the center for infants, toddlers and preschoolers. This area is also used by the Head Start children. Rubber tiles are installed in this area for surface cushioning and trees provide shade. There are also woodchips. There is climbing equipment with small slides. There is a playhouse, rocking bee and a rocking ladybug. There is also a sandbox, playhouse and a picnic table.

There is a second area in the back of the program for preschool children. Rubber tiles are used for surface cushioning. There are swings and climbing equipment, including slides, games and a bicycle merry-go-round. There is a small grassy area. There is limited shade in this area.

The school-age children use the school playground and there is also an open grassy area that can be used. There is climbing equipment in two locations. They have slides, rings, a bridge, and bars. There is also an area with six swings. In these two locations woodchips are used for surface cushioning. Woodchips must be routinely raked to fill areas below the swings and slide. Trees provide shade. You must complete playground inspections on the school playgrounds also.

Ms. Lograsso is a great administrator and it shows by how well the childcare center is ran. I observed staff members talk with the children about using their words to solve problems and about taking turns. They provided the children with good handwashing reminders and several of them sang with the children as they washed their hands. Staff members provide the children with a good routine and use play to teach the children colors and numbers. Staff members offered the children choices. They were patient and nurturing with children who have difficult behaviors at times. Staff members were on the floor with the children. They were actively engaged in play and encouraged the children to use their imaginations. Staff members had good knowledge of the children's developmental needs and social-emotional needs. The children appear to enjoy their time at the center.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

Ms. Lograsso states the entire leadership took the PBIS Cohort training. They meet with a coach monthly.

Ms. Logasso states they are getting acquainted with PIDS, a process where early childhood professionals assess a child's physical, intellectual, developmental and social-emotional well-being. Ages and Stages for tracking children's behavioral reports. They follow Iowa Early Leaning Standards. They also use ProCare for Vine Assessments.

Ms. Lograsso states that six staff members use the TEACH program and five staff members currently use the WAGES program and two more will use WAGES soon.

Ms. Lograsso states the staff members are thriving.

The center is in a secure building and there are cameras in the classrooms.

The center has a Donuts for Dads event for Father's Day and a Muffins with Mom for Mother's Day and they plant flowers.

The center had a Family Fun Night this month.

The center has an IQ4K level of 3 that expires in August 2026. They are going to apply for a level 4.

IV. IDENTIFY THE ASPECTS OF OPERATION THAT FALL BELOW THE STANDARDS REVIEWED:

109.10(6): Children's hand washing: Center shall ensure staff assist children in personal hygiene.
The children in the school-age were sitting on the rug prior to moving to the tables to eat lunch. They moved directly to the tables from the rug. Children must wash their hands prior to sitting down for food activities.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

A full license is issued for the remainder of the licensing period. All DHS licensing standards and procedures must be maintained during the renewal period.

*Note: If you are the Child Care Center Director and you feel something is unclear or unjustly cited, please contact your DHS Licensing Consultant to discuss the issue. The child care director may also send a response which will be placed in the licensing file.

*Note: If you are a member of the general public, there may be additional information contained in the public file. You may contact the DHS Licensing Consultant to inquire.